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WILBERT ROBINSON SEVERE TASKMASTER



Leader of Brooklyn Dodgers and Some of His Players.

There always has been an impression that Wilbert Robinson was an easy boss and that as such his men will play on him with the result that the athletes shirk their duty to the detriment of Brooklyn's pennant interests. Any number of fans can be found who will declare in favor of a taskmaster like McGraw and against a suave manager like Robby. They hold the opinion that ball players must be driven slavishly if a club is to be a winner. Kid-gloving them gets nothing in the end but the horse laugh. Recent events have proved, however, that Robby is less solicitous of the feelings of his men than in other years, writes Len Wooster in the Brooklyn Times. While he still applies the salute and is ever ready to bestow praise for a clever piece of work he is driving his team harder

and compelling every man in a regular berth to step right up to the top notch of his ability. Failure to meet requirements carries with it the ignominy of a job at bench warming. Ollie O'Mara was given two days only to establish his worth to the team. The same limit was set for Gus Getz. Casey Stengel was somewhat short of the standard and Jimmy Johnston was given the assignment in right field. Zack Wheat is under surveillance. The noted caretaker of the left wing of the outer defense is cutting very little figure in batting and his fielding lacks the snap of old times. Robby is determined to land Brooklyn a winner if it's in the team. He is experimenting with that object in view. Robby is playing the cards for a winner, and expects every man to do his part or suffer the consequences.

WON'T CHANGE HIS PITCHERS

Manager Jennings of Tigers Gives Reasons for Not Removing Hurler Who Gets Poor Start.

Hughie Jennings, the keeper of the Jungle team, says that he has been panned a lot for keeping pitchers on



Manager Hughie Jennings.

the bill when the batters have found their range, but explains his motives with some sound reason. "When I announce the pitcher to start the game," said Jennings, "he is the best man I have for that day's work. If they hit him they will probably hit the next one I offer them. These one-inning bursts win games sometimes, but if you don't win and you throw away a couple of pitchers, you are up against it when the double-deckers come along."

Henry Is Hitting Hard

John Henry, catcher for the Senators, is another player who has done his batting togs. In every game he has been hitting the ball hard for Washington, and in a majority of them has connected for one or more safe hits. A catcher that can hit is a great asset to a ball club.

Zimmerman Hitting Harder

Capt. Heinie Zimmerman has been counting the ball harder than usual this year and has also been holding out more than ever before in his life.

BASEBALL NOTES

"Fritz" Malsel is showing improvement in his outfielding.

Ty Cobb says that it is easier to steal third base than any other.

Napoleon Lajoie is convinced that Home Run Baker has not gone back. Manager Jennings says his team will show marked improvement soon.

"Heinie" Zimmerman, the Cubs' third baseman, has struck his batting stride.

Barney Dreyfuss denies the report that he contemplates retiring from baseball.

The big asset on Mike Kelley's Saints is big Phil Douglas, when he behaves.

The record of the Red Sox hitters is really the best of the American league circuit.

If the transfer of Speaker is good for the game why not transfer Cobb to the Athletics?

All things come to him who waits—when he's hitting against a pitcher who has lost control.

Jack Graney of the Cleveland Indians will be passing Tris Speaker if he keeps up the pace.

"Mike" Kelly has added strength to his St. Paul outfield by signing Walter Cruise of the Cardinals.

Don't get Markle of the Yanks mixed with Merkle of the Giants. The Yankee man is a pitcher.

Griffith's Senators are reasonably certain to get a square deal as long as Judge remains on the job.

Jimmy Johnston, who played the garden for the Cubs some time ago, is doing fine work for the Dodgers.

Lee Fohl's Indians didn't lift any scalps last season, but they've put on some fair-raising finishes this season.

"Terry" Turner, the veteran infielder, is about the liveliest member of the Cleveland Indians at the present time.

Pieh and Egg form the short-order battery for Newark. Pieh is not of the lemon variety and Egg is hard to beat.

Pitcher George Dumont of the Washington team is now a real big leaguer—he has had his tonsils removed.

SCORING IS BLAMED

Pittsburgh Writers Criticize St. Louis Official.

Think Pitcher Babe Adams Should Have Credit for No-Hit Game—Corps of League Scorers Would Solve Problem.

Official scoring in the baseball world is again causing trouble. It started right here in St. Louis when Pittsburgh writers criticized the work of the local official at the Cardinal park for not giving Babe Adams a no-hit game. One dinky hit, that many thought was an error by Schultz, was the sole black mark against the Pirate hurler, writes Ed Wray in St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

The present system is truly faulty. Scorers are appointed by home clubs. They are invariably working newspaper men. Sometimes, as in this city, the same man is not on duty in all games, but the job is "split," representatives of several papers taking turns at the task.

Thus several individualities may enter into the scoring in the same town. Pittsburgh writers suggest that the league select a paper, without permitting anyone to know which one it is, and take its box scores from that publication. It is argued that the scorers would then each give his own version, without waiting for the official on it.

But this would only confuse fans who want one ruling on plays and that an official one. And they are entitled to it.

The obvious course, if the scoring is not satisfactory, is to take it out of the scribes' hands and establish a corps of league scorers, each to be assigned to certain series, just as are the league umpires.

There is absolutely no reason why this should not be done now, even allowing for the expense.

SCOOPS CAREY "CLEANED UP"

Responds to Urgent Rooting of His Mother-in-Law by Slicing Out Three-Base Hit.

Scoops Carey's four hits at St. Louis in one game of the opening series is a reminder of an incident involving his father-in-law and mother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Behrens. They live in St. Louis, and Scoops spends the winter there. Carey came up with the bases



Scoops Carey.

full in the ninth and his mother-in-law, Mrs. Behrens, cried in kind tones: "Ach, Scoops, hit it and clean up."

"Is Scoops your son?" asked a man alongside.

"No, sir," replied Mrs. Behrens. "He is my son-in-law."

"Then we'll all root for him," exclaimed the man.

Scoops tripled and won the game while all the St. Louis crowd yelled.

Chappell Playing Well

"Larry" Chappell, who is now past-timing with the Columbus club of the American association is putting up a fine brand of ball. His hitting is of a high order and he has won several games already with his trusty stick.

Wants More Players

Roger Bresnahan thinks he cannot operate a team successfully with only 16 players, and he has started a move to have the American association team limit increased to 17. It is likely Roger will have his way.

Bill O'Hara, who played the outfield for the Giants under McGraw some years ago and afterward for the Toronto club, has made good as an aviator in the British army.

RISKS HER LIFE TO SEE HUSBAND

Belgian Woman Braves German Electric Fence to Escape to Holland.

MANY KILLED BY DEADLY WIRE

Poacher Leads Woman Through Hidden Tunnel at Night—Complaining Cry Tells of Cat and Dog Victims of Current.

London.—A Belgian journalist named Egbert Hans, until recently serving with the Belgian army, narrates the following story of the electric cable which the Germans have fixed along the Dutch frontier to prevent the Belgians from escaping into Holland:

"During the first few days only dogs and cats were struck, and one could hear their howls and cries a minute before they died. The first human victim was a young Belgian who had heard King Albert's call and wanted to go through Holland to join the Belgian army. The second victim we heard of was a poacher who brought letters into Holland. He knew every inch of the country, as they all do, and thought he could defy the electric cables.

"One morning very early I found a young woman sitting on one of the Dutch 'steeps' in Sluis. She looked worn out, but her face wore that happy expression which told me at once that she was one of those who had crossed. A few hours later I met her arm in arm with a young man whom I knew was an escaped Belgian soldier. I met them again and again, and the young woman told me

KILLS VILLA'S LIEUTENANT



Lieut. George S. Patton, while on a foraging trip near the San Antonio camp, visited the San Miguel ranch, about sixty miles southeast of Nampulpa, and with a scout and nine enlisted men in three automobiles encountered and killed three Villistas, one of whom was Capt. Julio Cardenas, a well-known lieutenant of Villa. Patton and his men left the camp in their three autos and fought the bandits from the autos, that is to say, they sprang directly from their cars into the fight, putting the encounter in a class by itself.

MAN OWNS VERY OLD PIPE

Laurelwood One 140 Years Old Is Property of Isalah Axe of Idaho.

Boise, Ida.—Isalah Axe of this place is the owner of a relic of unusual interest to all who have seen it. It is a laurelwood pipe that Mr. Axe, then a Union soldier serving in an Indiana regiment, picked up on the battlefield at Culpeper in 1862. It is hand carved, with a silver mounting. Around the upper edge of the bowl is engraved, "Yorktown, '76." Below is the American eagle with the banner on its breast, and under the curve of the pipe a skull and crossbones. Mr. Axe has had engraved "1862" in the banner to denote the year he found it. If the pipe was carved as denoted by the original inscription, it is 140 years old.

Circus Leopard Ate Eskimo Dog. Pottstown, Pa.—The wild animal circus at a carnival being held here vanished an extra thrill when a young leopard shot his paws between iron

the name of her town, how things were going there, and how she had got into Holland.

"Clara Vermeil was the young woman's name. She was an inhabitant of Oostkerke. In the beginning of the war her husband had been called to the colors. She heard from him three times, then his letters ceased, and for months she had lived alone, hoping that her husband was still alive.

Face Death for Husband. "One day Clara Vermeil was brooding over her misfortunes when the door opened and in walked 'Limping Victor,' a cripple who was employed by the Germans to do errands, and had often to go to Holland.

"Clara," he said, "I have seen Robert. He is at Sluis, just over the border. But don't ask any more. I risk too much already."

"She heard the door bang and was again alone. Robert alive! Robert at Sluis, only a few miles away! Then she fell on her knees before the Holy Virgin in the corner and prayed.

"Then a shadow crept over her face. Sluis is in Holland! The electric cables! They meant death for those who came near them.

"But she would go. She would face death for him. Her father tried to dissuade her, but finally gave in.

"There is only one man, Clara," he said, "who can help you if you really want to go to Sluis, and that man is Flor, the poacher. He knows every inch of soil for miles round and miles into Holland. Let us go and see him, or rather you go alone; that would be safer. You know where he lives."

"So you want to get to Sluis to see your husband, who was a soldier?" said Flor, when Clara called at his hut. "But do you know what it means, young woman? Do you know how many have been killed by that devilish wire?"

Crawls Through Tunnel. "It was about midnight when the poacher and Clara left the hut.

"This is the time that the guard is changed, and those old landsturns are always late," he had said, cautioning her not to make any noise.

"Near the little River Mendel running half a mile distant the poacher knew a kind of tunnel. This tunnel had been made many years ago to deliver water to a factory, standing just across the border, near Sluis.

"The cable is only a few yards distant from us," whispered the poacher to Clara. "We must keep to the right, as we will soon turn with the path and leave the cable. A cat rushed past. Clara was frightened. A few seconds after the poacher stopped her. 'Listen; that cat has been killed,' and she heard the 'complaining cry' which always followed contact with the wire by man or animal.

"The poacher had now found the bridge he was looking for. 'Now about a hundred yards further,' he said. He searched the grass and the rushes near the water until his foot sunk deep into a hole. Soon he found the opening. 'Come,' he said.

"The tunnel was not high enough to stand in, so they had to crawl. Clara thought it would never come to an end. She had never been in such darkness. She banged her head, hurt her feet, but thought only of her husband. At last she heard the poacher say: 'Here we are! This is Holland. But be quiet for another hour, for I want to go back. You follow this little river about five minutes. You will then come on a road which will bring you into Sluis after twenty minutes' walk. And your soldier will be sleeping under one of the roofs there.'

Cat Adopts Chickens

Manistee, Mich.—On the same day that several young kittens disappeared from the home of Peter Nelson, leaving a prostrated mother cat, a hen at the same place abandoned a brood of five newly hatched chickens. Nelson placed the chickens with the cat. For days the old cat has cared for the chicks with all conceivable devotion.

WEDDING RING USED THRICE

Token of Plighted Troth Is Employed by Three Generations of Californians.

San Francisco.—The same wedding ring which 75 years ago his grandfather placed on the finger of his bride, and which 35 years later, his father made similar use of, was again employed as a token of plighted troth when Dwight D. Chase of Oakland married Laura Zerba. The wedding took place at the home of Mrs. J. Arthur Logan, a sister of the bridegroom, the ceremony being performed by Rev. Mr. Allen of St. Paul's church, Oakland.

Mining communities are feeling the other side of the war order boom in the greatly increased cost for blasting powder, a charge having in some cases increased as much as 75 per cent.

LIVES ON CORN NINE DAYS

Ohio Workman Nearly Dies as Result of his Accidental Nap in Freight Car.

Chicago.—"I feel like a horse, I guess," said Michael Desich when they brought him before Judge Flanagan in the South Chicago police court, whereupon he gave an imitation of one of the genus equus having blind staggers. Michael had been living on shelled corn for nine days and was so weak he could hardly stand. He says there is nothing in this "corn fed" stuff.

Michael hails from Steubenville, O., where he works for the Carnegie Steel company, he told the judge, exhibiting his working identification check as proof. A week ago last Saturday night, he explained, he worked overtime. He passed a few hours in endeavors to drown out the recollection of the occurrence, and it was Sunday when he crawled into a loaded Pennsylvania box car and fell asleep. His snoring failed to reach the grain inspectors, who locked and sealed the car door. Today a railroad policeman patrolling the South Chicago yards heard him pounding on the car door and yelling feebly for help. The officer pried open the door and arrested him as "disorderly."

The judge dismissed the charge and the courtroom attaches took up a collection to buy Mike a square meal. Doctor Carlin, ambulance physician, blocked the plan temporarily.

"Not yet," he said, "have to begin easy. A glass of milk."

"Lord!" said the convalescent, "it's lucky it wasn't a carload of coal!"

NEAR DEATH MANY TIMES



Arrested and rearrested, sentenced to be shot time and again as a spy, Albert K. Dawson, the Kaiser's war photographer, returned to this country recently.

Three times Mr. Dawson waited to be executed by Serbian soldiers, who held him prisoner on suspicion of his being a spy. Seventy times he was arrested. In his official capacity he has traveled over a great part of the warring fronts, but described the conditions existing in Serbia as being most appalling. Serbian soldiers refused to bring with them their Austrian prisoners owing to lack of food. Signs of war, disease and desolation met him at every turn.

The above picture of Mr. Dawson shows him in the mountains of Serbia wearing a Bulgarian sheepskin coat, made in the mountains, while campaigning with the Bulgarians in their great drive against Serbia.

MAKES HIS THIRD ESCAPE

Eugene Gilbert, French Aviator, Flees Swiss Camp Again—Gets to Italy.

Paris.—For the third time Eugene Gilbert, the French aviator, has escaped from the camp in Switzerland where he was interned. The aviator, who made several aeroplane records before the outbreak of the war, was compelled by lack of gasoline to land on Swiss soil after making a raid on the Zeppelin factory at Friedrichshafen.

He made his first attempt to escape soon after his internment and managed to reach Paris, but he was sent back when the Swiss authorities declared that he had not given them sufficient notice of his withdrawal of his promise not to attempt to escape.

In February the aviator again tried to make his way out of Switzerland, but was arrested at Olten.

According to the Petit Parisien, M. Gilbert has succeeded this time in making his way to Italy.